

## NOTES FROM LENDONWOOD

### Hello, Friends of Lendonwood!

Yes! We had some rain, at last! If WE were relieved to see some moisture, imagine how Lendonwood's plants felt. It came just as the foliage began to turn and we're enjoying some beautiful colors (more about that later). Besides that, we had a successful workday (more about that later as well) to "put the garden to bed." That may sound like the garden is closed for the winter, but not true! The Welcome Center will close for the season in mid-December, but the garden itself remains open year-round every day from dawn to dusk. So, if we have one of those wonderful balmy days in winter, please feel free to enjoy a serene walk through the garden.

**SHOWING OFF THE GARDEN:** We're always delighted to show visitors around the garden, but it's especially gratifying to host some of our community's rising leaders. On Oct. 27, we greeted 17 members of the Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Grove class of 2022. These outstanding leaders learned a bit about Lendonwood's history, our organization, and hopes for the future. Then they walked through the garden, led by Lendonwood Vice President Jim Reynolds, pausing at the Oklahoma Garden, Monarch Waystation, Japanese Pavilion, Angel of Hope, and more.



Grove's future leaders enjoyed visiting the Angel of Hope

**AND SPEAKING OF GARDEN TOURS:** Our garden managed to get through the pandemic shutdowns, in part, because we are outdoors! However, as you can imagine, the virus cut way back on visiting bus tours. Now, we are seeing a return to such tours, as shown by a visit on Oct. 20 by about 40 people from Indiana. We welcomed them to Lendonwood as one of Grove’s highlights, took them on a walk through the garden, and shared information about our history. And, yes, they made a major hit on our gift shop’s inventory!

**IT TAKES A VILLAGE...OF VOLUNTEERS:** Nearly 60 volunteers came together on October 29 to help “Put the Garden to Bed” at the fall workday. Many of the workers were members of Grove Rotary. Thank you, Rotarians! But the workday also drew community volunteers of all ages who tackled a wide range of tasks needed to keep the garden growing and thriving. Thank you all!



**Fall Workday volunteers Michelle Pracht, left, and Louise Templin “harvest” seeds from nectar plants for next year’s bounty**



**There’s something satisfying – for people of all ages – about filling a wagon with garden debris and hauling it off**

**COLORING BETWEEN THE (LENDONWOOD) LINES:** Fall foliage is a little late at Lendonwood this year, but splashes of red, orange, burgundy and gold are showing up now. The large number of Japanese maples offer an amazing fall palette for us to enjoy. Come see the colors!



**Autumn can be just as beautiful as spring at Lendonwood**

**CHRISTMAS AT THE GIFT SHOP:** If you're looking for unique holiday gifts, look no further than the Gift Shop at Lendonwood! Here you'll find beautiful hand-turned wooden bowls by master turner Bill Koch of Jay, as well as Christmas shirts by Sabaku Artwear and fun puzzles for children. Also, there are artworks by volunteers Nancy and Jerry Harper, Christmas-themed garden flags and welcome mat inserts. We're participating in the Grove Holiday Open House Nov. 11-12, so come soon for best selection!

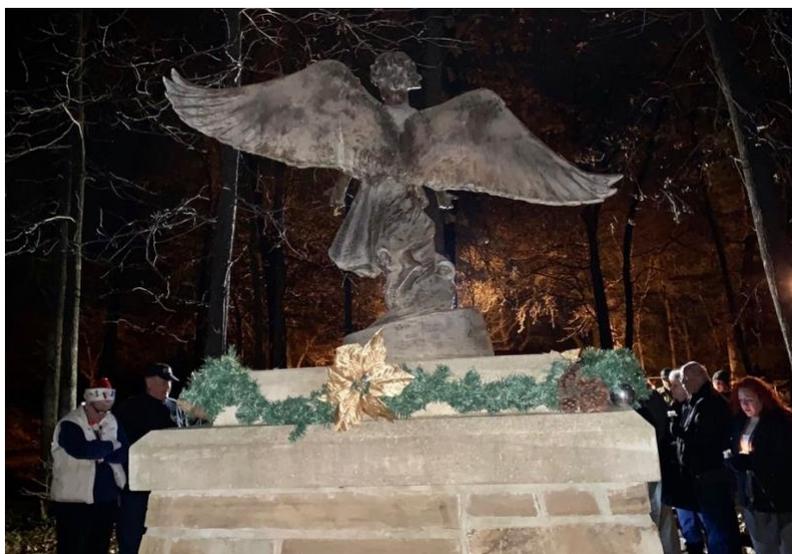


**Lendonwood Board members Cindy Reynolds, left, and Shirley Daggett show off some of the Christmas tops available at the Gift Shop**



**A beautifully turned wooden pot by master turner Bill Koch of Jay, Oklahoma, would make a treasured Christmas gift**

**REMEMBERING LOST LOVED ONES:** Every year on December 6, Lendonwood joins in a national remembrance day wherever there is an Angel of Hope statue. At Lendonwood, the ceremony, which is open to the public, includes a candlelight vigil, placement of white flowers, music, prayers, and reading of the statue's history. We are pleased to host this moving event, which starts at 7 p.m. at the Angel of Hope statue, located on the west side of the garden. Candles, flowers, cookies and hot chocolate are provided.



**Members of the community gather at the base of the Angel of Hope Statue to remember lost loved ones, especially children**

**THE WELCOME CENTER TAKES A BREAK:** While Lendonwood remains open year-round, the Welcome Center will close for the winter at 4 p.m. December 11. It will re-open on March 15, 2023 – just in time to welcome spring visitors. During the Center’s winter break, visitors can enter the garden through the front gate, leaving their admission fees in the red box just inside the gate. As usual, the garden itself will be open from dawn to dusk.

**TODAY’S GARDENING TIPS:** This is a great time of year to test and improve your soil. You could amend your soil in the spring, but there are several good reasons for doing it now. If you add manure, gypsum, compost and other items now, they have a better chance of enriching the soil in time for spring planting. We also recommend adding a layer of untreated mulch, about 2 – 3 inches deep, to help prevent weeds, add nutrients and maintain adequate moisture.

It’s also a good time for reviewing the last growing season and planning for next year. What grew well? What didn’t? And, of course, don’t forget to clean and sharpen your garden tools. First, wash the tools to remove dirt and debris. Then use sandpaper or a wire brush to get rid of rust. You can sharpen tools with a file and whetstone for pruners. Finally, moisten a rag with machine oil and wipe the surfaces; then put away the tools. There! You’re ready for spring gardening!

That’s all for now, folks! Come see us at the Garden!

Jim Corbridge, President  
Lendonwood Gardens